

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

July 2003

Location

NEW MEXICO Southeast

Eddy County

Loco Hills

Date	Time Local/Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
				Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	
23	2143MST 2216MST			0	0	0	0	Flash Flood

Local authorities closed Highway 82 near Loco Hills as flash flooding resulted in high water crossing the highway.

Eddy County

Artesia to

3 S Artesia

23	2305MST			0	0	0	0	Flash Flood
24	0030MST							

Flash flooding resulted in high water flowing through city streets in Artesia. High water also crossed Highway 285 south of Artesia near Eagle Draw.

TEXAS West

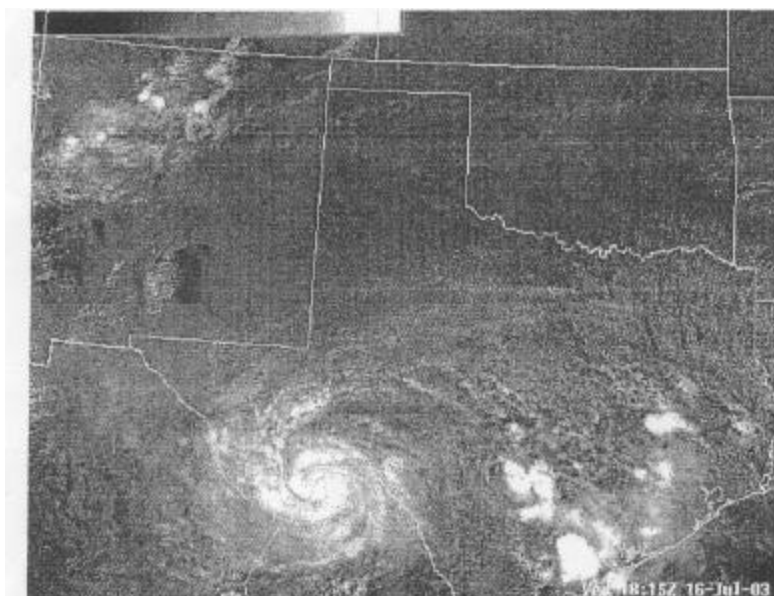
TXZ082

Terrell

16

1115CST
1230CST

0	0	0	0	Tropical Storm
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This visible satellite image shows Tropical Storm Claudette shortly after crossing the Rio Grande River and entering the West Texas Big Bend at 1215 CST on July 16. Sustained tropical storm force winds were measured approximately 35 miles northeast of the storm's center by the Terrell County Airport ASOS at 1158 CST. Claudette produced strong to severe winds and heavy rainfall that resulted in flash flooding as it moved across West Texas. In addition, low topped supercellular convection developed in the outer rain band and resulted in wind damage across the Upper Trans Pecos region.

Tropical Storm Claudette's center of circulation (as best located through use of visible satellite imagery and sparse surface observations) crossed the Rio Grande River/U. S.-Mexican border in eastern Brewster County around 1215 CST, or about 35 miles southwest of the Terrell County Airport (K6R6). The K6R6 ASOS measured a fastest two minute sustained wind of 44 MPH (38 kt) from the east at 1158 CST. A peak gusts of 58 MPH (50 kt) was also recorded at that time. K6R6 was north of the westward moving center of circulation, in an area favored for high winds. Claudette likely weakened below tropical storm criteria over Brewster County during the early to mid afternoon. Due to a lack of surface observations from this remote area of the West Texas Big Bend, however, wind measurements at K6R6 are the furthest inland (roughly 355 miles from the coast) evidence of tropical storm force winds.

Claudette also resulted in heavy rainfall across most of the Lower Trans Pecos and the Big Bend. Radar estimates indicate rainfall totals between four to six inches across parts of Terrell County.

TXZ074-258

Davis / Apache Mountains Area - Guadalupe Mountains Of Culberson County

16 1205CST
17 0504CST

0	0	0	0	Tropical Depression
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TEXAS West									
An automated observation site on top of Mount Locke in the Davis Mountains recorded strong east to northeast winds as the center of Tropical Depression Claudette moved across the Big Bend of West Texas. A peak wind of 53 MPH was recorded at 1220 CST. Maximum sustained winds reached 28 MPH at 1225 CST. Frequent gusts between 40 and 50 MPH were common.									
Strong east winds were also recorded by automated observing systems in the Guadalupe Mountains as Tropical Depression Claudette moved south of that mountain range. Channeling of east winds through Guadalupe Pass (5,500 feet MSL) resulted in localized topographically enhanced tropical storm force winds, but these winds were not representative of the storm's ambient wind strength at that time. Such winds were observed at 2151 CST when sustained winds reached 41 MPH (36 kt) with gusts to 46 MPH (40 kt), and again at 2351 CST with sustained winds of 44 MPH (38 kt) with gusts to 52 MPH (45 kt).									
Winds which were more representative of the ambient gradient wind were measured at The Bowl (7,755 feet MSL) where maximum sustained winds reached 35 MPH (30 kt) at 2104 CST. Gusts at The Bowl reached 70 MPH (61 kt) at 0104 CST.									
Brewster County 38 S Marathon	16	1500CST 1630CST			0	0	0	0	Flash Flood
Flash flooding resulted in high water covering Highway 385 south of Marathon.									
Loving County 2 E Mentone	16	1530CST			0	0	12K	0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG57)
A thunderstorm in Claudette's outer convective band resulted in damaging winds near Mentone. A porch was blown tiff of a mobile home, and a power pole was blown down.									
Terrell County 19 NNE Sanderson to 22 NNE Sanderson	16	1940CST 2145CST			0	0	0	0	Flash Flood
Thunderstorms trained across parts of Terrell County for several hours as convection developed in one of Claudette's bands along the Serranias del Burro Mountains in northern Mexico, and moved north around the back side of the storm's circulation. Radar estimated storm total precipitation of four to six inches across parts of the county were likely underestimated given the tropical nature of the environment. Flash flooding resulted in high water that covered Farm to Market Roads 2886 and 2400.									
Tropical Storm Claudette moved into the West Texas Big Bend region around midday on the 16th with sustained winds of 44 MPH (38 kt) recorded at the Terrell County Airport. The system likely weakened below tropical storm criteria during the early to mid afternoon over Brewster County. High winds, with gusts which are considered severe, continued in the higher elevations of the Davis and Guadalupe Mountains as Tropical Depression Claudette continued to move west-northwest across the region. Heavy rainfall associated with the system resulted in flash flooding across portions of the Lower Trans Pecos and the Big Bend. In addition, strong to severe thunderstorms, some showing radar characteristics of low topped supercells, resulted in damaging winds across the Upper Trans Pecos.									
Pecos County 5 W Bakersfield	23	1710CST			0	0	0	0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG52)
Damaging thunderstorm winds broke large tree limbs greater than two inches in diameter.									
Pecos County 30 S Ft Stockton	23	1845CST			0	0	0	0	Hail(1.00)
Reported along Highway 385.									
Ector County 6 W Odessa	23	1925CST 1938CST			0	0	0	0	Hail(1.75)
Numerous reports of quarter to golfball size hail were received from the West Odessa area.									
Reeves County 1 S Pecos	23	1930CST			0	0	3K	0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
The local newspaper reported thunderstorm winds blew the roof off of a building just south of Pecos. An automated observing system at the local airport recorded a peak gust of 49 knots.									
Several severe thunderstorms affected the western Permian Basin and the Trans Pecos region. These storms resulted in large hail up to the size of golfballs and severe winds.									